### SPECIAL OLYMPICS NL



# THE ATHLETES POST

Volume 3 March 2019

### **Our Mission:**

This newsletter was created for athletes so they can give their opinions on different topics. As Newfoundland's Athlete Leader Representative on the Canadian Input Council I am having a hard time communicating with all the athletes in their club regions. I hope this newsletter will keep us informed and you, the athlete, can discuss topics through a new Facebook group – **Special Olympics Athlete Post**. If you would like to contribute to the Athletes Post, please do so by joining the Facebook group.



**Melanie Taylor**, from CBS, received a Gold Medal for figure skating at the Canada Winter Games in Red Deer Alberta.

Congratulations Melanie!!!!



**Peter Hynes** from the Placentia Lions Special Olympics club received a Bronze medal for Javalin at the Special Olympics World Games in Aubi Dahbi. Way to go Peter

#### What's Happening:

During March, Unified Competitions will take place in High Schools within the province

On May 2, schools from Conception Bay North are attending Youth Canada Games in Toronto, a Unified and Special Olympics Ontario Games

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, we have our Special Olympics Festival at Clovelly Golf Club, with a luncheon and a bunch of fundraising events taking place throughout the night. Our athlete, Kristen Tibbo, is speaking at this event... also, Heather Miller, and Mark Peddle are Co-hosting this event with Mark Dawe.

#### Athlete Leadership:

Special Olympics Newfoundland & Labrador has scheduled an Athlete Leadership Summit for April 12-14, 2019 at Max Simms Camp in Grand Falls. One athlete and one mentor will be chosen to represent each club. Training will be provided to attendees in Governance and Public Speaking. Athlete Leaders and mentors are coming together, from across the province to participate in our first series of workshops through the Athlete Leadership Program. If you're interested in representing your club, tell your Club's Executive. https://www.specialolympics.ca/newfoundlandand-labrador/events/fri-04122019-1700/athleteleadership

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#### 2019 Winter Games

#### **Grand Falls Windsor**

The games began with individual sport competitions in Snowshoeing and Cross Country Skiing February 22-24. There was a large crowd out for the Opening Ceremonies on Friday night. All the Athletes were ready and prepared to compete and looking to win some medals. The winners from these games will move on to the National Winter Games in Thunder Bay next February.

On March 1-3 Team events took place in Bowling, Curling, Floor Hockey. Opening Ceremonies were great, the entertainment was over the top, Competitions went great, everyone was excited to compete.

Of course, the dance was the highlight of the whole weekend. Medals were won and some athletes will be going to the Nationals next February in Thunder Bay.

Both weekends were enjoyable and the athletes were excited and pumped to show their spirit in their sports and have fun as well.



## **THE ATHLETES POST**

### Profile An Athlete:



Hi, my name is Michael Lamond. I have been a Special Olympics athlete with the Happy Valley / Goose Bay Howling Huskies for about 10 years. I compete in Athletics and Snowshoeing. I also like to play bocce and go swimming. I competed in snowshoeing at the SONL Winter Provincial Games in Grand Falls in February and got a bronze medal in 100m and a 7<sup>th</sup> place ribbon in 200m. Our team was involved in the Labrador Winter Games and I won a gold medal in the 100m snowshoeing event! I volunteer at Birch Brook Nordic Ski Club shoveling snow and I help out at our primary school cleaning I pads. I love spending time with my sister Allison who lives in St. John's. She is my best friend.





Hilam Leah McDonald. Iam a Special Olympics Athlete with the CBS Brightstars. I have been in Special Olympics for 8 years. I take part in Rhythmic Gymnastics and I play Bocce. I go to the College of North Atlantic studying Early Childhood Education. When I am not participating in my sports... I love to paint, sing and play piano and also create things with Lego. I love to spend time with friends, and go to Spirit of Newfoundland shows. My favorite part is going on trips, and meeting new friends and competing in my sports.

#### **CBS Special Olympics/ Winterfest**

The Town of CBS hosted a fun bowling night for the CBS Winterfest at Riverdale Lanes in Kelligrews for Special Olympics Athletes to come and bowl with their family and friends for free. This event was enjoyed by all who attended. There were prizes to win.

